

ada? On the Pacific coast they are driving the white men and women from the most fertile valleys we have, and at present they control over 27,000 acres of the best land in British Columbia. Some years ago Chinamen started in peddling vegetables from door to door in Vancouver and Victoria, underselling the white man in every case. Finally they drove the white man to the wall and to-day the people of these cities are paying more for vegetables than is paid in any other city on the Pacific coast. The reason of that is that the oriental is in control of the market. Out of nineteen firms classified as retail and wholesale vegetable dealers in the telephone directory of Vancouver eighteen of them are under oriental names. The orientals are also getting well advanced in many other lines. Take, for instance, the wholesale and retail merchants of the city of Vancouver. Over 300 of them are orientals, and this number does not include Asiatics trading under the names of white men. A number of these firms combine together and purchase at wholesale prices. Then they retail the products bought in this way to the oriental restaurants at the wholesale rate. This is gradually driving the white men who are trying to run restaurants out of business. It is a very effective way of killing opposition.

What are they doing in the case of the logging camps all along the coast in which employment was given to hundreds and thousands of men? Over forty logging camps on the Pacific coast are controlled and operated by the Japanese. How can white men compete with orientals who can board themselves for twenty-five or thirty cents a day and live in shacks not fit for human beings to dwell in? Surely the people of Canada do not want to allow into this country a class of immigration that will lower the standard of living for the workingman. Why should the laws of this country not be such that they would raise rather than lower the standard of living of the workingman. The workingmen and women of this country are the backbone of Canada. No country can long continue in the forefront whose people are not workers.

The white people in the West are waiting to see what the members of this House are going to do about this question. The fishermen on the Pacific coast are eagerly waiting to see the stand this House will take on the oriental question; and the farmer and his family, who realize that they will finally be run out of house and home

by the oriental if the immigration laws of this country are not changed, are eagerly waiting to see whether this Government is or is not going to take some action. The lumbermen and the logger are eagerly waiting to see whether they will get a square deal at the hands of this Government. The laundrymen, who employ hundreds of our boys and girls, are eagerly looking for action on the part of this Government. The small merchant is also eagerly expectant of action. The young girl, who, through lack of employment, is forced to work in the restaurant with some of these orientals, is eagerly looking to see what the members of this House are going to do on this question. The mother of the little school girl—dear to her as life itself—is anxious to know if any relief is in sight, or if she will still have to continue sending her little one to school to sit in the same seat and associate with oriental boys twice her age. Yes, and the little girl herself who resents such company wants to see a change brought about. If this Government takes hold of this situation and passes legislation that will stop orientals entering this country they will have done more for Canada than any other government that was ever entrusted with the administration of public affairs in the Dominion.

Why should this Government not assume the responsibility and put an end to this at once? Why should it not assume the responsibility the people sent it here to assume? I will admit that you can educate the orientals, but it is simply like painting a pump to purify the water in the well. You can never change their disposition. The oriental is not a man who will develop the country. He will not go out and cultivate the country. He stays rather in the city, and takes the jobs from our women and young people. I read a statement in a paper the other day about this question, and I may say I do not believe in people coming into this House and spending hours reading the newspapers. When there are so many young women out of employment, the oriental problem becomes a serious affair. One young woman said "I have two bits left". I have lived for the last two weeks on two pints of milk and two doughnuts a day, and when I go to look for a job I mostly meet a Chinaman at the door and am told that I am not wanted." It is pretty hard for these young women that we have allowed into our country orientals to fill jobs that our own people